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PUNCH MEDIA

NATIONAL ROSÉ DAY

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DON-HEMIAN RHAPSODY

Donald Trump and Queen Elizabeth honored the strong bond between both nations as the president's state visit to Great Britain continues. 2

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8 THINGS TO KNOW

Trump gets royal treatment from queen on UK state visit

The president, however, called London Mayor Sadiq Khan a "stone-cold loser."

REUTERS

Donald Trump and Queen Elizabeth hailed the bonds between the United States and the United Kingdom on Monday after the president was feted with a day of pomp designed to bolster an alliance strained by discord over Brexit and China.

Trump's interventions into Britain's political crisis over Brexit had threatened to overshadow his state visit to London but instead the president appeared to relish the royal red carpet that his hosts laid out for him and wife Melania.

The three-day trip was cast as a chance to celebrate Britain's "special relationship" with the U.S., boost trade links in a post-Brexit world and reaffirm security cooperation ahead of the 75th anniversary of the allied D-Day landings in World War II.

"The bond between our nations was forever sealed in that great crusade," Trump said in a speech at the lavish banquet at Buckingham Palace.

"As we honor our shared victory and heritage, we affirm the common values that will unite us long into the future: freedom, sovereignty, self-determination, the rule of law and reference for the rights given to us by almighty God."

"The bond between our nations was forever sealed in that great crusade."

President Trump

While the proudly unpredictable 45th U.S. president lavished praise on the 93-year-old queen, his views on Britain's exit from the E.U., on the possible successor to Theresa May as British prime minister and a row over China's Huawei have cast a pall over the visit.

Even as he flew into London, he reignited a feud with Mayor Sadiq Khan — who had written on Sunday that Britain should not be rolling out the red carpet for Trump — describing the mayor as a "stone-cold loser."

The state visit was promised by May back in January 2017 when she became the first foreign leader to meet Trump after he took office.

The first day of such a visit is customarily engagements and ceremonies.

At Buckingham Palace, Melania — in an elegant, white below-the-knee Dolce & Gabbana dress with navy blue collar and belt and a custom hat by Herve Pierre — stood alongside the queen and Charles' wife Camilla, while Charles and the president inspected the guard.

After lunch with Elizabeth and other senior royals, the queen gave the Trumps a guided tour of artifacts of American historical interest from the royal collection. She also showed him some of her family's golfing memorabilia in a nod to the president who owns two Scottish golf courses.

The queen's second son Prince Andrew then accompanied him to Westminster Abbey, coronation church of English monarchs for 1,000 years, where he laid a wreath at the Grave of the Unknown Warrior, before tea with Prince Charles at his home, Clarence House.

The day culminated with the opulent formal dinner, where men wear white-tie coats with tails and women, evening gowns.

COMMON VALUES

"Mr. President, as we look to the future, I am confident that our common values and shared interests will continue to unite us," the queen said.

"Tonight we celebrate an alliance that has helped to ensure the safety and prosperity of both our peoples for decades, and which I believe will endure for many years to come."

In response, Trump heralded the British monarch, saying she "embodied the spirit of dignity, duty and patriotism that beats proudly in every British heart."

Away from the pageantry, Trump has already waded into Britain's turbulent domestic politics, where more than a dozen candidates are vying to replace May, who announced last month she was quitting after failing to get her E.U. divorce deal through parliament. REUTERS

NFL to review video of Cowboys' Elliott altercation

2 The NFL likely will investigate an altercation between Dallas Cowboys running back Ezekiel Elliott and a security officer to determine whether Elliott violated any terms of a previous suspension agreement, Yahoo Sports reported. Gossip website TMZ posted a video last Monday showing events that took place early May 18 at the Electric Daisy Carnival festival in Las Vegas. The video shows a man identified as Elliott pushing a security guard against a metal railing, and he falls. Elliott then is handcuffed but not arrested. An NFL source told Yahoo Sports that the video is reviewable under the league's personal conduct policy, especially given Elliott's previous six-game suspension after the NFL investigated allegations of abuse made by a former girlfriend. Last week, team owner Jerry Jones said he didn't expect Elliott to face any discipline and downplayed the incident. REUTERS

Man who tossed boy off mall balcony gets 19 years

3 A man who admitted hurling a 5-year-old boy off a third-floor balcony at Minnesota's Mall of America was sentenced to 19 years in prison on Monday. Emmanuel Aranda, 24, was sentenced in Hennepin County District Court, two weeks after he agreed to the prison term and pleaded guilty to attempted first-degree murder, a crime that carries a max sentence of 20 years behind bars, said Chuck Laszewski, spokesman for the county DA's office. The incident occurred on April 12. Both the mother and father of the child, who was critically injured in the fall, forgave Aranda in victim statements Laszewski provided to Reuters. "I don't get to judge you or hate you. Instead I am full of God's love and I have overwhelming joy and peace in my body as I sit and watch my boy heal in miraculous ways right in front of my eyes," the boy's mother said in her statement. REUTERS

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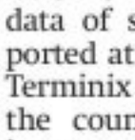
Philly named bedbug capital of the United States

Apparently it's Bed Bug Awareness Week.



NATE HOMAN
letters@metro.us

We're No. 1! On a rather nasty list.

Philly scooped up the top spot on the Terminix annual ranking of "Top 50 Bed Bug-Infested Cities" in the country ahead of summer vacation season and Bed Bug Awareness Week.

Where did the City of Brotherly Love rank last year? Second. Is this the first time Philly has been crowned most bedbug-infested city? Nope. These insufferable little pests were snug as a bug in a rug in Philly in 2014, too.

"Bedbugs continue to pose concerns for public health, as their presence is felt across the country, in cities large and small," Terminix Residential President Matthew Stevenson told BusinessWire.

Rankings are determined through a compilation of bedbug-specific data of service calls reported at more than 300 Terminix branches across the country. The rankings represent Metropolitan Statistical Areas with the highest number of actual services between April 16, 2018, and April 15, 2019.

Thanks to increased travel, bedbug infestations have gone up since the 1990s.

Terminix research revealed that 22 percent of Americans polled have had a bedbug encounter, and that the odds of encountering them are much higher for those with children.

Despite the high incidence rates and increased awareness of bedbugs, this research shows nearly half of the country who travel do not know what precautions to take to guard against them.

Apparently, Philly is a hotbed for such individuals.

There are some pretty standard signs and symptoms of a bedbug infestation.

Terminix experts warn that bedbugs can be found in more than just bedding and mattresses. They can easily hitchhike from place to place via personal belongings, such as jackets, purses and luggage, or hide in upholstered furniture and behind baseboards.

Infestations are notoriously difficult to treat. They can mature in about 35 days, and can survive seven months to a year.

> **"Bedbugs continue to pose concerns for public health, as their presence is felt across the country, in cities large and small."**
>
> Matthew Stevenson, Terminix Residential president

Bedbugs are largely active at night, so infestations can be difficult to spot. Look for signs of the insects like shedded skins and blood spots on mattresses or sheets.

Another telltale sign of bedbugs is their smell. The scent of their pheromones can be quite strong. It's often described as a musty odor.

Oh yeah, another indication that you might have an infestation: burning raised itchy bumps with a clear center, or a dark center and lighter swollen surrounding area scattered in zigzag patterns or in a line. The bite itself is pretty much painless. On average, they suck blood for a solid 10 minutes while their victim sleeps.

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Philly firefighter dies during Jersey Shore triathlon

Dennis "Denny" McDaniels was off duty and swimming when he suffered a cardiac arrest.

BECCA GLASSER-BAKER
Rebecca.Glasser@metro.us

An off-duty Philadelphia firefighter died over the weekend while participating in the Escape the Cape Triathlon at the Jersey Shore.

On Monday, he was identified as 36-year-old Dennis "Denny" McDaniels. McDaniels was a 12-year veteran of the force. He was assigned to Ladder 15 in the Frankford area. CBS 3 reported he leaves behind a wife and four sons.

Officials said he was found unresponsive at about 9:05 a.m. during the swimming portion of the Escape the Cape Triathlon. Rescuers pulled him from the water and administered CPR on the beach.

McDaniels was taken to Cape Regional Medical Center in Cape May Court House, where he was pronounced dead at 10:20 a.m.

Jim Salmon, a spokesman for the Delaware Bay and Bridge Authority, spoke with Inquirer.com, saying: "He had nearly completed the initial swimming portion of the Escape the Cape Triathlon when he was found ... in apparent cardiac arrest by an event volunteer stationed near the course."

According to Reuters, 1.74 out of every 100,000 triathlon competitors dies of cardiac arrests. Dr. Kevin Harris, a cardiologist at Minneapolis Heart Institute Foundation at Abbott-Northwestern hospital, told Reuters that "the majority of deaths occur in the swim portion of the triathlon, which is the first portion of the race."

> **"He had nearly completed the initial swimming portion of the Escape the Cape Triathlon when he was found."**
>
> Jim Salmon, spokesman for the Delaware Bay and Bridge Authority

"During this portion of the race, the athletes likely experience an adrenaline surge as they enter the water and are competing in close proximity to other athletes, and in some cases with environmental conditions that are difficult to prepare for," Harris said. "We don't understand the exact cause of death in each athlete, and some swim deaths may be related to drowning."

GETTY IMAGES

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REUTERS IMAGES

Sephora to shut US stores for day of diversity training

R&B singer SZA claims she was profiled in a California store.

LVMH's Sephora beauty chain said it will close all its U.S. stores, distribution centers and corporate offices on Wednesday to conduct diversity training for employees, a move that follows a racial incident involving a Grammy-nominated singer.

R&B singer SZA, who is black, said in April she was racially profiled at a Sephora store in Calabasas, California.

"We have been informed of an incident at our Calabasas store and in addition to reaching out to SZA directly, we are gathering more information about the incident in order to take the proper next steps," Emily Shapiro, a spokeswoman for Sephora, told Reuters in an email. "We take complaints like this very seriously. Profiling on the basis of race is not tolerated at Sephora."

SZA said a Sephora employee she identified as "Sandy" called security to make sure the singer was not stealing from the store. "We had a long talk. U have a blessed day Sandy," SZA said in a Twitter post.

Shapiro said the Sephora closures were not "a response to any one event," saying that planning for the "inclusivity workshops" had been in progress for several months and that a broader campaign called "We Belong to Something Beautiful" had been in the works for at least a year.

Sephora owner LVMH is based in Paris.

SZA was quoted in an interview with Refinery29 last year as saying she previously worked in the skin-care department at a Sephora store.

"You are a part of the Sephora family, and we are committed to ensuring every member of our community feels welcome and included at our stores," Sephora said at the time in a response to the singer's post.

SZA is a Grammy nominee who also collaborated with Kendrick Lamar on the song "All the Stars" for the blockbuster movie "Black Panther."

After SZA's tweet following the incident, Google reviews for the Calabasas store spiked, with many users criticizing Sephora over the incident.

Barbadian singer Rihanna last month unveiled her new fashion brand with LVMH, a rare move by the French group to set up a label from scratch as it taps into soaring demand for celebrity collaborations in the luxury world.

Sephora's workshops come about a year after Starbucks closed 8,000 stores across the United States for anti-bias training after a Philadelphia cafe manager's call to police resulted in the arrests of two black men who were waiting for a friend.

REUTERS

SZA.

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Let's talk about sex: How to communicate with your partner

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Whether you're partnered or single, investing in your mental health doesn't have to be a solo journey. No one knows this better than the Philadelphia Institute for Individual, Relational & Sex Therapy (PhIIRST). At the end of the day, it's all about braving life's challenges so that you can be your best self.

Sharing your sexual curiosities and desires with your partner can feel pretty intimidating, but more often than not, it's actually a gateway to deeper connection and enhanced intimacy. Metro caught up with PhIIRST sexuality therapist Seneka Rupert, M.Ed., LMFT, to talk about why these types of conversations are so important. Here's how to keep the lines of sexual communication open and unblocked.

Why is sexual communication important?

The only way to actually get any of your wants, needs and desires met is to express them. We have this social fantasy where we think people are mindreaders and will just figure it out, or that somehow our partners should know what we want. The truth is that none of us are telepathic. You're not going to be satisfied if you keep everything inside.

What's a good way to start the conversation if you feel nervous?

The most normal fear is: "Will I be rejected? Will they think I'm weird?" There are a couple of great ways to slowly start talking about sexuality. One conversation-starter could be bringing up something you saw in a movie or TV show that piqued your sexual interest. Ask your partner what they thought of it. It's really important when talking about sexuality to do it in a nonsexual place at first. Make it a time that is separate from sexual activity. You can even give your partner a heads up that you want to talk about some sex stuff so you're not dropping a bomb on them. Just keep in mind that what you're going to suggest probably isn't as strange as you think it is.

Is it likely that my partner actually wants to talk about sex?

Most people want to talk about sex. We just haven't had a lot of practice, and we don't have a culture that encourages healthy conversations about sex. Once you're able to open the door and invite your partner in to talk to you, you're more than likely going to get positive responses.

What if your partner suggests something you're not comfortable with?

You definitely want to respect all of your boundaries and your partner's boundaries. There are some things you might not want to try, but would be ok with. Hard boundaries translate to something you're not ever ok doing. If it's a hard boundary, is there an alternative you'd be ok with? Let's take anal sex, for example. If you're not ok with it, maybe you just talk about doing it or watch some erotic material about it together. You're still tapping into that, but you're not doing anything you're uncomfortable with.

Why go to PhIIRST?

We provide basic education around communication skills, like reflective listening, and also help people practice having these conversations in session. Having an expert there who's comfortable talking about sexuality can make it more comfortable for everyone and really help

couples learn how to open up to each other.

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Actor Kevin Spacey attends his arraignment for sexual assault charges at Nantucket District Court. GETTY IMAGES

Spacey appears in Nantucket court for sex assault hearing

The disgraced actor denied indecent assault charges in January.

NATE HOMAN
letters@metro.us

Disgraced former "House of Cards" star Kevin Spacey's lawyers demanded that the accuser's cellphone be turned over to the defense during a hearing on sexual assault charges on Monday.

Spacey pleaded not guilty to charges of groping an 18-year-old busboy at a Nantucket bar during the summer of 2016 in an arraignment in January. His lawyer dismissed the felony sexual assault charges as "patently false."

Nantucket District Court Clerk Magistrate Brian Kearney issued a criminal complaint of indecent assault and battery against Kevin S. Fowler, also known as Kevin Spacey, on Dec. 20, 2018. In the complaint, the victim told police Spacey allegedly bought him drinks after he got off work at Club Car bar. Spacey reportedly asked the teen about his penis size. The report claims that Spacey then tried to convince him to come back to his house for an afterparty, before reaching through his pants and touching the teen.

Spacey's lawyer already persuaded Judge Thomas Barrett to order the teen to preserve all data from his cellphone for six months following the July 7, 2016, incident. According to police, the busboy exchanged numerous text messages and Snapchat videos with his then-girlfriend about his interactions with Spacey at the Club Car bar, but never specifically mentioned the alleged assault.

Spacey's career fell apart following a slew of sexual assault and harassment allegations in November 2017.

Netflix killed off his "House of Cards" character and fired Spacey in the wake of multiple sexual harassment claims from former and current "House of Cards" production staff.

According to the Boston Globe, the victim's family have not filed a lawsuit, but are being represented by Boston attorney Mitchell Garabedian, who is well known for representing hundreds of clergy sex abuse victims.

The charge carries penalties of up to five years in prison or up to 2-½ years in jail and would require Spacey to register as a sex offender.

GETTY IMAGES

Kushner denies discussing his security clearance with Donald Trump

Donald Trump's son-in-law and White House adviser Jared Kushner denied that he spoke with the president about his security clearance, according to an interview with the Axios news outlet that comes amid a congressional investigation of the issue.

"I have not discussed it with him," Kushner told "Axios on HBO" on Sunday when asked if he had talked about his clearance with Trump.

In February, the New York Times cited sources saying Trump had ordered Kushner be given top-secret clearance, despite qualms by some officials.

A House committee is investigating whether some staffers in Trump's White House received high-level security clearances over the objections of career officials. Those staffers include Kushner and his wife, Ivanka Trump, congressional sources have told Reuters.

Representatives of the House Oversight committee had no immediate comment on Kushner's remarks.

Top-secret security clearances are granted after in-depth background checks and are required if government officials need access to highly classified information.

Kushner separately told Axios in the interview, taped May 20, that he was unsure if he would report contact by Russia or another hostile foreign power ahead of the 2020 presidential election in which Trump is seeking re-election.

Security-clearance holders' contact with foreigners is scrutinized in an effort to avoid foreign influence that could pose a security risk.

Kushner's attendance at a 2016 meeting at Trump Tower with Russians offering to help Trump's campaign was examined as part of the U.S. Special Counsel's Office investigation into Moscow's meddling in U.S. politics. Kushner was not charged by Special Counsel Robert Mueller.

Asked if he would call the FBI if it happened again, Kushner told Axios: "I don't know. It's hard to do hypotheticals," calling the Trump Tower meeting "a clown show" that did not produce "anything that was salacious."

U.S. Sen. Mark Warner, the top Democrat on the Senate Intelligence Committee, which is also investigating Russian interference in the 2016 election, said Kushner's comments raise questions about his trustworthiness.

REUTERS

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Blackbeard's ship embarks for US Supreme Court in video piracy case

A documentary filmmaker accused North Carolina officials of unlawfully pirating his footage.

Mike Davis, president of the Maritime Research Institute, hoists a bronze bell recovered in 1996 at the site of what experts believe is the wreckage of Blackbeard's pirate ship "Queen Anne's Revenge." REUTERS IMAGES

Maritime employees inspect recovered cannon.

The nine black-robed justices of the U.S. Supreme Court will soon navigate the treacherous legal waters around a sailing ship made famous in the 18th century by the notorious English pirate known as Blackbeard.

The court on Monday agreed to hear a bid by a documentary filmmaker to revive his lawsuit against state officials in North Carolina whom he accused of unlawfully pirating his footage of the wrecked pirate ship named the Queen Anne's Revenge, which went down in 1718.

The filmmaker, Frederick Allen, has appealed a lower court's ruling that North Carolina could not be sued under federal law for allegedly infringing his copyrights on five videos and a photograph of salvage operation for the ship in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Beaufort, North Carolina.

Though states typically are shielded from lawsuits under the U.S. Constitution through a form of protection known as sovereign immunity, the case hinges on whether the shield applies to copyright infringement. In 1990, the U.S. Congress passed a law allowing states to be held liable for illegal copying.

Blackbeard, whose name was Edward Teach, ran aground the Queen Anne's Revenge, his flagship, on a sandbar 58 years before the United States declared independence from Britain. By law, the ship and its artifacts are owned by the state.

A private salvage company located the wreck in 1996. Allen and his firm, Nautilus Productions, documented the efforts by divers and archaeologists to recover artifacts. Allen obtained federal copyright registrations on the videos and still images.

Allen and Nautilus sued North Carolina in federal court after state officials used some of the documentary materials on YouTube and a state agency website. The state also passed a law converting the materials into public records.

The Richmond, Virginia-based 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals threw out the case last year, ruling that Congress exceeded its powers in passing the 1990 Copyright Remedy Clarification Act as an attempt to override state sovereign immunity in copyright disputes.

Appealing to the Supreme Court, Allen said states are flagrantly infringing authors' copyrights and invoking sovereign immunity as a way to avoid paying damages.

If the 4th Circuit's decision is not overturned, Allen said in a legal filing, "creators of original expression will be left without remedy when states trample their federal copyrights."

North Carolina Attorney General Joshua Stein emphasized the shipwreck's historical and archaeological value and told the justices that the 1990 law is unconstitutional.

Blackbeard prowled the shipping lanes off the Atlantic coast of North America and throughout the Caribbean before being slain — shot, stabbed and decapitated — in 1718 during an encounter with British naval forces at North Carolina's Ocracoke Inlet. REUTERS

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SIDEWALK STOPPERS

Why is it that people love to come to a dead stop in the middle of the sidewalk while they are on their phone or not paying attention and block all walking traffic? It's so rude and just not considerate. Not to mention, when they stop, you bump into them — which you can't avoid doing when they stop — and then they look at you like you did something wrong. Ugh! Next time, look up and see what's going on in the world around you before causing a traffic jam.

— **Molly A.** *Metro US reader*

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Don't rely on others when you are capable of doing things on your own. A chance to advance will depend on your ability to take on challenges and solve problems.

Taurus Keep moving forward with your plans. Don't let anyone sidetrack you with emotional meddling. Assess situations quickly and do whatever it takes to get good results.

Gemini Stay focused on what you need to achieve. Working alongside people who are as dedicated as you are will speed things up. An interesting offer will give you something to look forward to.

Cancer Stand by people who share your beliefs. Working in unison with others will bring the highest returns. Compromise will help you build strong alliances and a secure future.

Leo Participate in activities that will encourage you to network and rub shoulders with people who can help you bring about much-needed change. Learn from experience.

Virgo Check out your options before you make a move. Consider what or who is holding you back and make a focused effort to ward off interference.

Libra A chance to try something different will become a learning experience. Proceed with an open mind, but also use common sense when dealing with anyone pressuring you to take on something questionable.

Scorpio Take a leap forward. Much can be accomplished if you trust and believe in yourself and your ability to get things done. If you pay attention to someone you love, you'll enhance your personal life.

Sagittarius Keep your life simple. Don't let drama or extravagance disrupt your day. Use your skills to make your life better. Upgrade your qualifications to fit current economic trends.

Capricorn Change begins within. Consider what you want to improve, and share your thoughts with people whose approval you need. Love and physical improvements are highlighted.

Aquarius Get together with people who have something to contribute. Mull over ideas and proposals carefully, and eliminate any ideas that aren't realistic. Start small and build something concrete.

Pisces If you contact a former co-worker, you will be offered information that will help you make an instrumental change to the way you earn your living or handle your finances. EUGENIA LAST

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LIFESTYLE

5 FANTASTIC PC CASE MODS AT COMPUTEX 2019

From "Game of Thrones" to Pokémon, the Taiwanese fair was filled with incredible customized cases.

PROVIDED

NORMAN GUTIÉRREZ
letters@metro.us

Any tech hardware fair worthy of recognition will showcase extraordinary case mods and overclocking. Computex Taiwan was no different. We were able to see dozens of PCs specially designed to look, shine and be one of the main attractions of this fair. Here are the best ones.

THE IRON THRONE

"Game of Thrones" fans can now have a more interactive experience with the already melted-down Iron Throne. With a liquid cooling system from Taiwanese Bitspower and manufactured by YJ Mod, Drogon's warm breath is no heat for it.

THE SCORPION KING

This insect manufactured for Asian company iGame has an impressive exoskeleton, although with a Core i3 and 8 GB of RAM, it's more for looks than performance. But, it does sting: the GPU is a GTX 2080 Vulcan X OC.

COLD BEER

Who can refuse a delicious glass of beer? This case, decorated in the shape of a well-known brand of beer, is fully functional as a PC and as a dispenser, with everything including a tower, CO_2 tank and adapter for the barrel. Useful for those game nights with friends, probably with more than one fallen in battle (in the broad sense of the word). Difficult not to be tempted.

DETECTIVE PIKACHU

Pokémon is literally everywhere these days, and this Level 20 Thermaltake case is proof of that: with first-generation starters — Bulbasaur, Squirtle and Charmander — on one side and a bomb similar to a pokeball, this model traveled from the United States to battle at Computex. Honorable mention to the Detective Pikachu sign on the inside face of the front.

THE STEAMPUNK TYPEWRITER

This prototype seems taken from "Bioshock: Infinite" or an episode of "Penny Dreadful," and is as fantastic as impossible. Apart from the mechanical keyboard in the actual case, this all-in-one has liquid cooling with copper tubes, valves that control the temperature of the equipment and G.Skill Trident Z Royal memories, which bring a touch of elegance to the assembly.

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Superhero fever leads to creation of more diverse characters

2019 became the year of superheroes in cinema, with 11 films of the genre released, and others preparing to entertain audiences next year. Will these movies save the world or make it a better place? Metro investigates.

DANIEL CASILLAS
letters@metro.us

Just in the last 10 years, the film industry has been invaded by the superhero genre with more than 41 movies, some of which have become blockbusters. In fact, five of the top 10 worldwide blockbusters of all time star superheroes. And the latest one, based on Marvel comics characters, is close to becoming the most profitable movie in the world — unseating "Avatar," which has been heading the list for more than 10 years.

With only $99 million behind "Avatar," "The Avengers"' fourth installment already has gained $2.7 billion at the global box office. A minimal difference from the $2.8 billion Avatar harvested during its almost eight months of presence in theaters.

For the next few years it is expected that superhero fever will continue, with 10 films based on comic characters scheduled to be released next year. In fact, there are already some movies planned for 2021.

The success of comics in cinema has led their characters to conquer new spaces, which have resulted in an almost omnipresence of superheroes and villains in the world of entertainment. There are thousands of toys, books, shows, party supplies and even amusement park games featuring them.

This success has also led to the emergence of new superheroes and even comics companies that seek to create characters different from those that already exist. Such is the case of Sha Nazir, a Scot who decided to create BHP Comics, frustrated by the lack of South Asians as leading characters or as illustrators. Nazir believes that comics and their characters should be a reflection of society.

"We should have mirroring in our society, the reflection of the world we live in. It has happened in film and TV industries a little more the past few years, but comics are only just catching up," Nazir told Metro.

But the over-saturation of superheroes, especially in cinema, has led to a greater, although slow, diversity in comic characters and films. With examples like "Thor" as a female character in some Marvel comics, an African-American "Spider-Man" and even a film like "Black Panther," in which most of the actors are African-Americans.

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Rosé all day

Top Philly spots are celebrating National Rosé Day with unique and delicious specials.

MOLLY GIVEN
Molly.Given@metro.us

Rosé all day — well, at least all day this Saturday, June 8. National Rosé Day is this weekend and some top spots around the City of Brotherly Love are offering unique specials, tasty treats and more to celebrate the spirited holiday.

Jet Wine Bar
It's no surprise that Jet Wine Bar is offering an incredible deal for National Rosé Day this weekend. Any Philadelphian who heads to the hot spot on Saturday can indulge in their Rosé Aperol Punch, their take on an Aperol Spritz. The drink is made with Aperol, passion fruit, lime juice and rosé wine and will be available during happy hour from 5 to 7 p.m. for just $7 ($9 outside of happy hour). Jet Wine Bar is also offering rosé wine on tap from producer Cantine Povero out of Piedmont, Italy. This dry rosé is available during the week during happy hour for $6 a glass, so every day can be National Rosé Day at Jet. *1525 South St., jetwinebar.com*

Assembly Rooftop Lounge
What better way to spend National Rosé Day than on a gorgeous rooftop overlooking historic Logan Square? Assembly Rooftop Lounge is offering their refreshing Frosé made with rosé, Cocchi Rosa, dry vermouth, strawberry, lemon and topped with fresh blueberries all day this Saturday for only $14 a glass. *1840 Benjamin Franklin Parkway, assemblyrooftop.com*

Yard House
Head to Yard House this weekend to try their delightful Rosé Refresher. This light and refreshing cocktail features Ketel One Grapefruit Rose, Cointreau, citrus agave and Angry Orchard Rosé Cider. Yard House is also serving up the Jean-Luc Colombo Rosé for those who want something a little more traditional. *Various locations including Moorestown and King of Prussia, yardhouse.com*

Red Owl Tavern
Cool down this Saturday with a deliciously sweet frozen rosé treat from Red Owl Tavern. The Old City hot spot will be offering $5 Frozé Popsicles in honor of National Rosé Day this weekend. Philadelphians can indulge in the tasty treat while sitting outside at ROT's newly revamped outdoor seating and truly soak in the summer. *433 Chestnut St., redowltavern.com*

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The Rosé Sorbet from TAPS at The Bourse.

The Frosé from Assembly Rooftop Lounge.

The Bourse
Head to the upscale food hall in Old City to make the most of National Rosé Day this Saturday. Rosé lovers can indulge in a glass of draft rosé paired with a rose lychee French macaron for just $10 all day at Chocodiem or Rosé Sorbet featuring Scoop DeVille's gluten-free and dairy-free raspberry sorbet with a pour over of Pinnacle Ridge rosé for $11 at TAPS Fill Station. *111 S. Independence Mall E., thebourse philly.com*

Seasons 52
If you are looking for somewhere to enjoy National Rosé Day this weekend, look no further. At Seasons 52 guests can enjoy fresh and bright rosé choices ranging from d'Esclans Whispering Angel' dry rosé to a Rosé Lemonade that features Ketel One Botanical Grapefruit and Rose vodka combined with Royal Post Rosé and lemon. *2000 NJ-38, Cherry Hill, NJ, seasons52.com*

Co-Op
The West Philly hot spot is serving up a delicious treat for the spirited holiday this weekend. Co-Op is offering a duet of rosé for $6 this Saturday which features a 3-ounce pour of Bila Haut and a 3-ounce pour of Cote Mas Rosé. If you want something to cool you down, Co-Op is also offering a Rosé Popsicle for $13 made with rosé, fresh blueberries, fresh strawberries and syrup. *20 S. 33rd St., coopphilly.com*

Square 1682
Head to the Center City eatery to enjoy a delicious glass of rosé and a half-dozen oysters for only $16. Square 1682 will be offering this mouthwatering special all day this Saturday for National Rosé Day. Philadelphians can enjoy their meal at one of Square 1682's many umbrellaed outdoor tables lining Sansom Street or inside the chic eatery. *121 S. 17th St., square1682.com*

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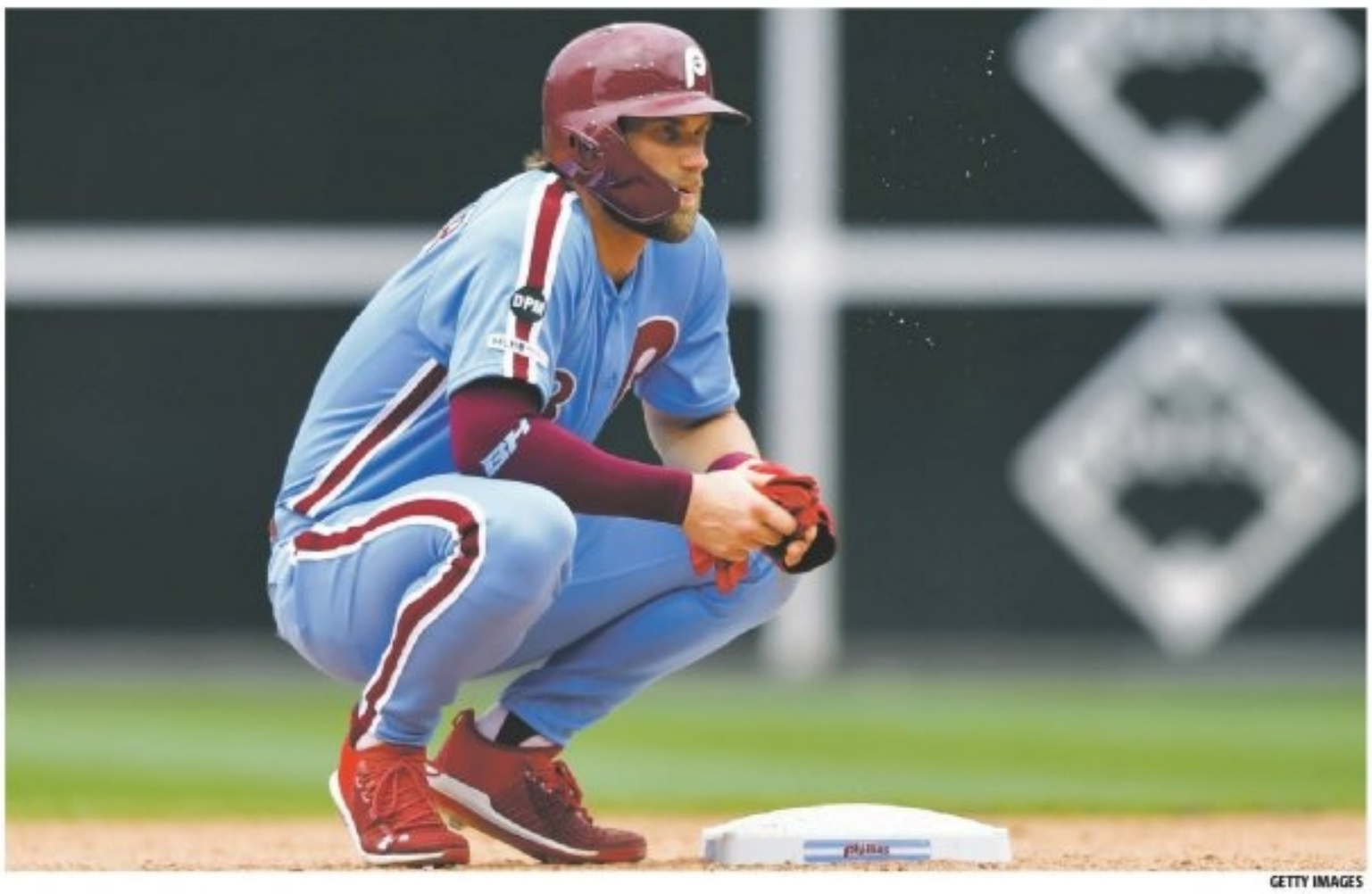
NL MVP betting: Good value in Bryce

A glance at the current NL MVP odds and which players to bet on.

MATT BURKE

Matt Burke is a veteran sports journalist and the Founder and Editor in Chief of MetroBet.



GETTY IMAGES

We are now two months into the MLB season so things are beginning to come into focus in terms of the National League MVP race.

Before the season, FanDuel Sportsbook had the newly-signed Bryce Harper with the best odds to take home the award at +600.

Harper has been good but not great for the Phillies so far as those odds have moved to +4000. He is now not even in the top 10 at FanDuel for MVP. In fact, Harper's own teammate Rhys Hoskins is now ahead of him at +2500.

Harper may be worth betting right now at those odds, though. If you bet $20 right now on Harper to win the 2019 NL MVP and he winds up winning, you would get a payout of $820. Not too shabby.

There's a ton of season left for Harper to climb up the leaderboard, and he will be in the mix as long as the Phillies are near the top of the standings.

To bet on NL MVP odds and more right now at FanDuel Sportsbook and get a risk-free bet up to $500 through MetroBet, go to:

tinyurl.com/y665pabz

MVP traditionally goes to the best players on teams in playoff contention. Consider that last year's MVPs (Milwaukee's Christian Yelich and Boston's Mookie Betts) both went to the top offensive performers on the teams with the most regular-season wins in each respective league.

Harper and the Phillies are both due to go on tears at some point during the dog days of summer.

Harper is on pace to reach his typical totals in home runs (right now he has 11) and RBI (currently with 43) but could certainly boost his batting average.

He's hitting just .249 right now, nowhere close to the .330 average he sported in 2015 when he won his lone MVP trophy.

Here are the current NL MVP odds at FanDuel:

Cody Bellinger +130
Christian Yelich +230
Nolan Arenado +500
Javier Baez +950
Josh Bell +1100
Freddie Freeman +1300
Ronald Acuna Jr. +1700
Anthony Rendon +2500
Anthony Rizzo +2500
Kris Bryant +2500
Rhys Hoskins +2500
Paul DeJong +3000
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Pete Alonso +3000
Bryce Harper +3000

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TWEET OF THE DAY

Thomas Duffy
@TJDhoops

Today in 2007, LeBron reached his first NBA Finals at age 22. These were his teammates:

Drew Gooden
Boobie Gibson
Sasha Pavlocic
Ilgauskas
Varejao
Damon Jones
Donyell Marshall
Eric Snow
Larry Hughes
Shannon Brown
Ira Newble
Scot Pollard

Best bets

Phillies, MLB betting previews

Phillies at Padres
The Phillies get their first taste of phenomenal rookie Chris Paddack (4-3, 2.40 ERA) when they face the Padres at Petco Park. The struggling Jerad Eickhoff (2-3, 4.10 ERA) counters for the visitors. Paddack was roughed up a bit by the Yankees on May 29, as he was tagged for home runs by D.J. LeMahieu, Luke Voit and Gio Urshela in a 7-0 rout. However, that was at Yankee Stadium. Paddack is 3-1 with a 1.42 ERA in San Diego in five starts this season. Opponents are hitting just .139 against him at Petco.

Eickhoff has pitched to an 8.45 ERA in his last four starts for the Phillies. The Padres are slumping on offense heading into this one (.193 average in the last seven days), but their power-hitting outfield of Wil Myers, Hunter Renfroe and Franmil Reyes is capable of doing damage at any given time. They combined for 22 home runs last month.

The play: Padres -130

Twins at Indians
The dynamic offense of the Twins should prove too much for the Indians to handle at Progressive Field on Tuesday.

The Twins enter Tuesday night's contest tops in the MLB in both batting average and OPS. Their 109 home runs for the season is also the best mark in baseball. That number comes despite the prolonged absence of third baseman Miguel Sano, who has five home runs in just 13 games since returning from the IL in late May. He's 3-for-6 all-time in his previous meetings with Indians starter Shane Bieber (4-2, 3.67 ERA). Bieber showed some signs of slowing down in May off a sharp April, allowing opponents to bat .252. By contrast, his batting average against in April was .175. Bieber has pitched to a 4.58 ERA in three previous starts against Minnesota, and the Twins are batting .342 against him in that span (17 2/3 innings). Southpaw Devin Smeltzer makes his second career start for the AL Central-leading Twins, and he allowed just three hits in six innings of work against a good offensive team in the Brewers on May 28.

The play: Twins +115

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Carson Wentz's mobility has impressed head coach Doug Pederson throughout OTAs. GETTY IMAGES

What to watch for at Eagles' last week of OTAs

Mandatory minicamp starts up next week for Philly.

JOE PANTORNO
joseph.pantorno@metro.us

The final week of OTAs began on Monday for the Philadelphia Eagles with just three sessions remaining before mandatory minicamp starts up next week.

While the last few days of voluntary work draws to a close, there are still several questions surrounding the Eagles, who are preparing for a 2019 season in which they are one of the favorites to take the NFC East.

Here are a few things to watch out for this week.

DON'T COUNT ON ANY RETURNS

The Eagles have been missing some key names during OTAs, including Malcolm Jenkins, Alshon Jeffery, Jason Peters and Lane Johnson.

Jenkins' absence has been the most notable one considering the 11-year veteran has never missed a voluntary offseason program in his career.

It has many speculating that Jenkins is doing this to voice his displeasure about his current contract. Despite being one of the top safeties in the league, he isn't being paid like it.

He remains visual around the organization, attending Carson Wentz's charity softball game on Friday. But don't expect him to show up at OTAs this week.

CARSON WENTZ'S KNEE

Quarterback Carson Wentz was back on the field on Monday with only a sleeve on his left leg.

Wentz has worn a brace on his surgically repaired left knee since tearing his ACL and LCL in 2017 but ditched it at the start of OTAs. Naturally, all eyes were on his mobility and health — especially after letting Nick Foles walk in free agency.

So far, so good.

Eagles head coach Doug Pederson has expressed his satisfaction with Wentz's movement throughout OTAs.

"He's strong, his body's strong, his arm is strong," Pederson said. "You're seeing the things we saw from years ago when he was healthy."

A MACK HOLLINS SIGHTING

It's been a difficult start to Mack Hollins' NFL tenure with the Philadelphia Eagles.

After appearing in all 19 games during the 2017 Super Bowl season, Hollins missed the entirety of last year due to lingering groin issues after undergoing sports hernia surgery.

On Monday, he was finally sighted at Eagles facilities, although he was working on a side field.

When healthy, Hollins could develop into a key outside threat for the Eagles given his blend of size (6 feet 4 inches) and speed. His unreliability in staying on the field, however, forced Philadelphia to re-acquire DeSean Jackson and draft JJ Arcega-Whiteside out of Stanford this spring.

With Jeffery and Nelson Agholor also in the mix, Hollins is going to have to work hard to get reps if he can return to health.

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"If people don't want to come to the ballpark, how are you going to stop them?"

Yogi Berra.

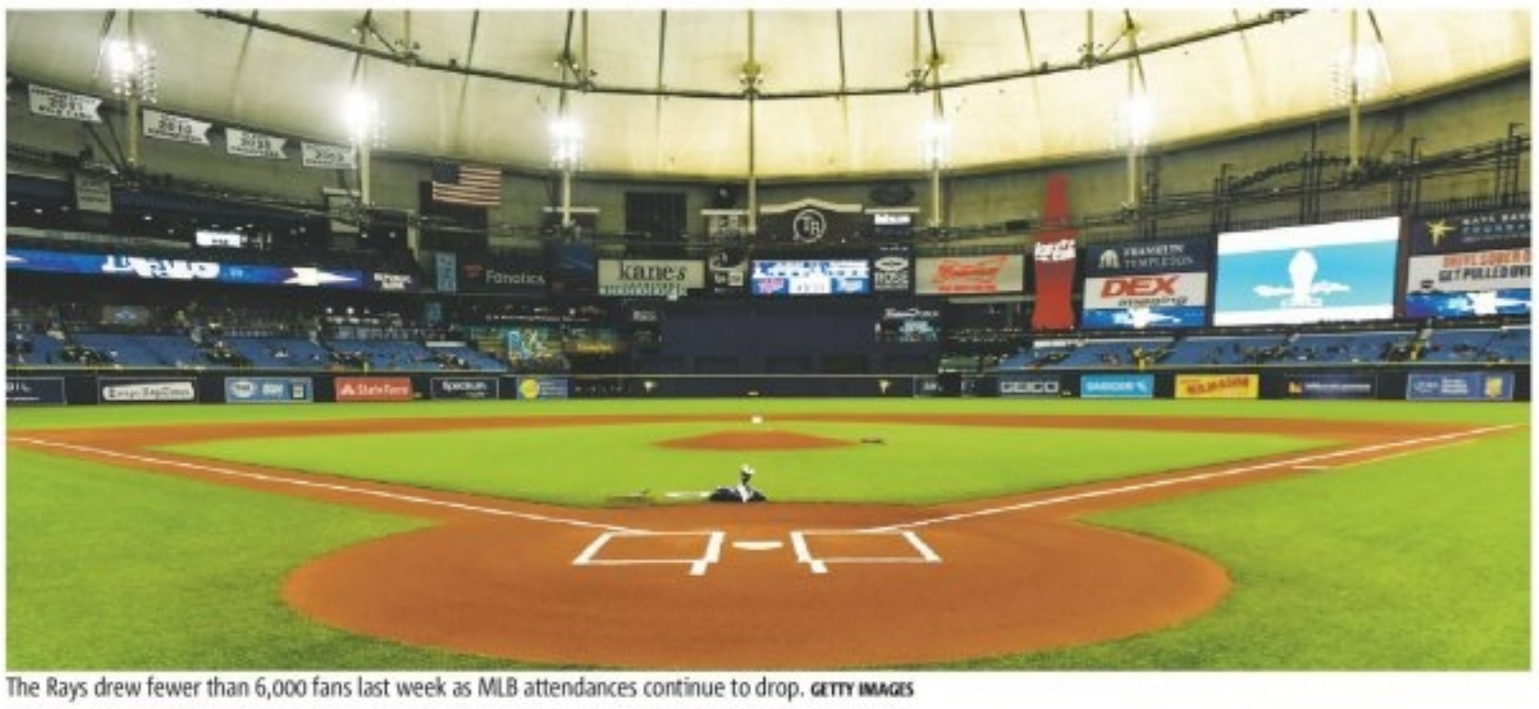
Berra was ahead of his time. The old sage and Hall of Fame catcher's quote was attributed in 1959, but he appears to be talking about today — six decades later.

Major League Baseball's attendance is down 1.4 percent this year. While that might sound marginal, it marks the fourth straight season that fewer people are headed to the park. Since turnout peaked in 2007, it's down 18 percent.

The great exception to the current trend is the Phillies, whose crowds are up 30 percent over last year. Call it the Bryce Harper Effect. At the same time, the Nationals are down 13 percent.

Last year, MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred blamed poor spring weather for empty seats. Now he cites increased competition for consumers' entertainment dollars. That's not entirely wrong but ignores the larger problem: The national pastime is increasingly slow, boring and one-dimensional.

Take it from someone whose first love as a kid was baseball: It's hard to sit through nine innings, either at the park or on TV. Yes, the pastoral, no-clock approach of the game is one of its attractions. But let's get real. From mound visits through warm-up tosses, it takes an average of four minutes every time there's a pitching change. And with revolving-door bullpens and twitchy managers, there are innings where you could run to your bathroom, sneak to the kitchen for a sandwich, check your email and return a few phone calls — and still come back to find Gabe Kapler waving his right finger toward the pen.



The Rays drew fewer than 6,000 fans last week as MLB attendances continue to drop. GETTY IMAGES

Not that having a pitcher standing on the mound necessitates action. Hurlers are quantitatively spending more time between pitches each season. Recently, Arizona pitcher Zach Greinke frittered for two minutes and five seconds between pitches. Put another way, longer than it took to run the entire Kentucky Derby.

Baseball's pace could be quickened with pitch clocks, shorter breaks between innings, and limits on relief pitchers. Simple. But there's another factor currently killing baseball, even as it makes for smarter play. And that's analytics.

Hear me out, because appearance aside, I'm not that old man waving at clouds. There's a science to employing the shift, to pulling starting pitchers after they run through the lineup twice, to forgiving batters' strikeouts if they lead to more home runs. Any smart manager trying to win these days has to adhere to the code of sabermetrics.

Problem is, what wins games also chases away fans. Analytics has been weaponized in a way that takes away the action. Forget the sacrifice bunt (that was always dumb). I'm talking about a paucity of stealing, base running and defensive highlights. You know, actual plays.

The sport has become a snooze fest of "three true outcomes" — walks, strikeouts and home runs. It's hard to believe homers could become tedious, but at this pace (a record 1,135 in May), it's a seven-day-a-week diet of chocolate cake. Even I can't take that much.

Me? I'd ban the shift today. Make plays start with two defenders on each side of the infield. And yeah, I support the notion of requiring relievers to face three hitters or finish the inning. Specialization is boring.

Hey, right now, interest in the Phils is way up, as it should be. But look beyond our team's current resurgence (the pitiful weekend sweep by the Dodgers aside), and consider what's happening to the sport these days.

Baseball's in trouble. Just ask the late Yogi Berra.

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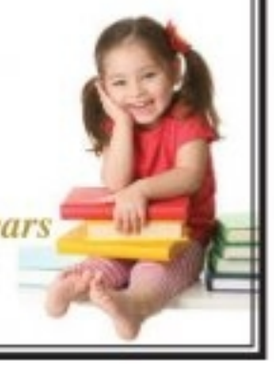

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Court of Common Pleas for the County of Philadelphia, May Term, 2019, No. 000470.

Notice is hereby given that on May 3, 2019, the petition of Vannie D. Curtis, was filed praying for a decree to change his name to Ameen A. Muqtadir. The Court has fixed June 11, 2019 at 1:30 PM, in Room No. 691, City Hall, Philadelphia, PA for hearing. All persons interested may appear and show cause if any they have, why the prayer of the said petition should not be granted.

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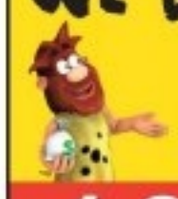

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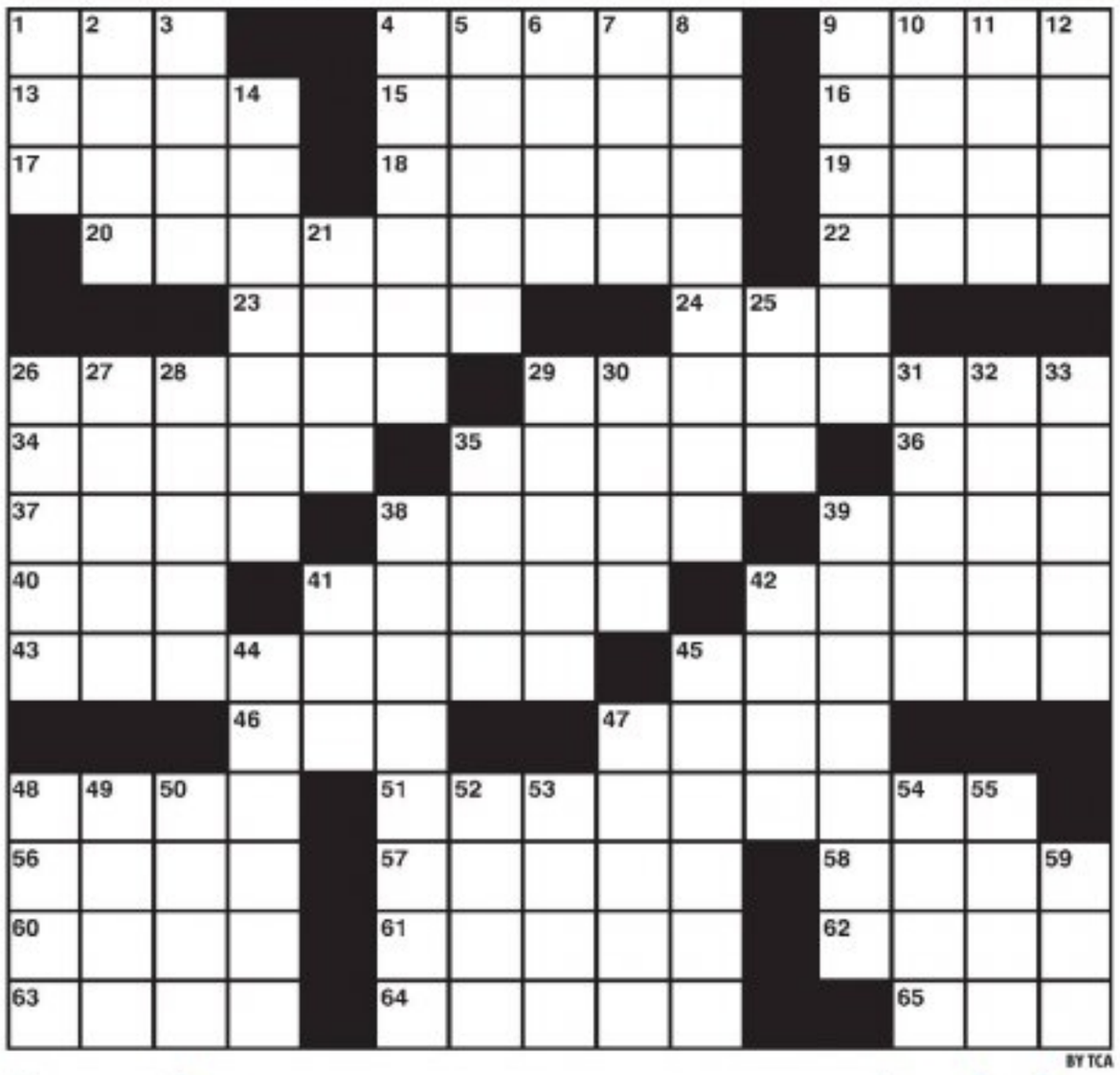

BY TCA

ACROSS
1 "__ Jude"; Beatles hit
4 Quarterback setbacks
9 Eerie sightings, for short
13 Lengthy quiz
15 Wading bird
16 Tried's partner, in phrase
17 Longest river
18 Traveler's stop
19 Gender: abbr.
20 Neighbor of Alabama
22 Pitcher's delights
23 Heavy book
24 "60 Minutes" network
26 Speak against
29 Turning
34 Be generous
35 Longed
36 Mongrel
37 Head toppers
38 Sat for an artist
39 Hitchhiker's hope
40 Cool __ cucumber
41 Floating sheets of ice
42 Door hanger's piece
43 Saviors
45 __ out; overate
46 "__ Clear Day You Can See Forever"
47 Ladder piece
48 Pocket bread
51 Like bad headaches
56 Lion's cry
57 In the air
58 Actress Patricia
60 Possesses
61 Dignified; virtuous
62 Long look
63 Book leaf
64 Rough woolen fabric
65 Child's running game

DOWN
1 Egg producer
2 Way out
3 Ivy League school
4 Plot craftily
5 "__ by any other name..."
6 Felix & Garfield
7 Part of the leg
8 Picked
9 Maximum
10 German wife
11 Kick out
12 Moments, for short
14 Trusted counselors
21 Facial center
25 Rotten
26 Boxer De La Hoya
27 __ out; get rid of gradually
28 Dads
29 Gets up
30 Wallet items
31 Cake topping
32 Elbow
33 Avarice
35 Penniless
38 Nice
39 Ropes & cables supporting a mast
41 "Are we having __ yet?"
42 Suggestion
44 Like rough sandpaper
45 Played miniature golf
47 Soldier's gun
48 Object used on stage
49 Sioux City's state
50 Powdered drink
52 Farm machine
53 Ear part
54 __ as a pin
55 Palestinian Strip
59 Piece of chicken

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M	A	L	E	F	I	C	E	N	T
N	E	L	A	T	K	R	A	H	S
T	T	O	U	R	I	S	T	N	W
I	S	H	F	O	G	L	O	L	A
G	A	N	G	E	L	I	N	A	N
R	L	C	N	V	G	S	R	C	T
E	T	H	U	Y	F	A	Y	L	E
S	B	V	K	S	M	I	T	H	D
S	T	P	U	R	R	E	T	N	I
A	D	N	A	P	E	I	L	O	J

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Kung Fu
Lisa
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Smith
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N	I	I
A	T	

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	9		8				4	
	6				2			4
		5	1	4	8	3		
7			5				9	
	8				7		2	
			3		9	7		
2		9	6			4	3	5

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T	E	E	■	D	A	M	O	N	■	A	S	T	H	E
■	■	L	E	A	P	S	■	■	W	I	T	■	■	■
S	C	E	N	T	S	■	■	S	E	N	S	E	S	■
N	E	R	V	E	■	F	L	E	E	T	■	V	I	P
A	D	A	Y	■	P	L	E	A	D	■	R	E	E	L
P	A	T	■	B	L	O	O	M	■	D	I	N	G	O
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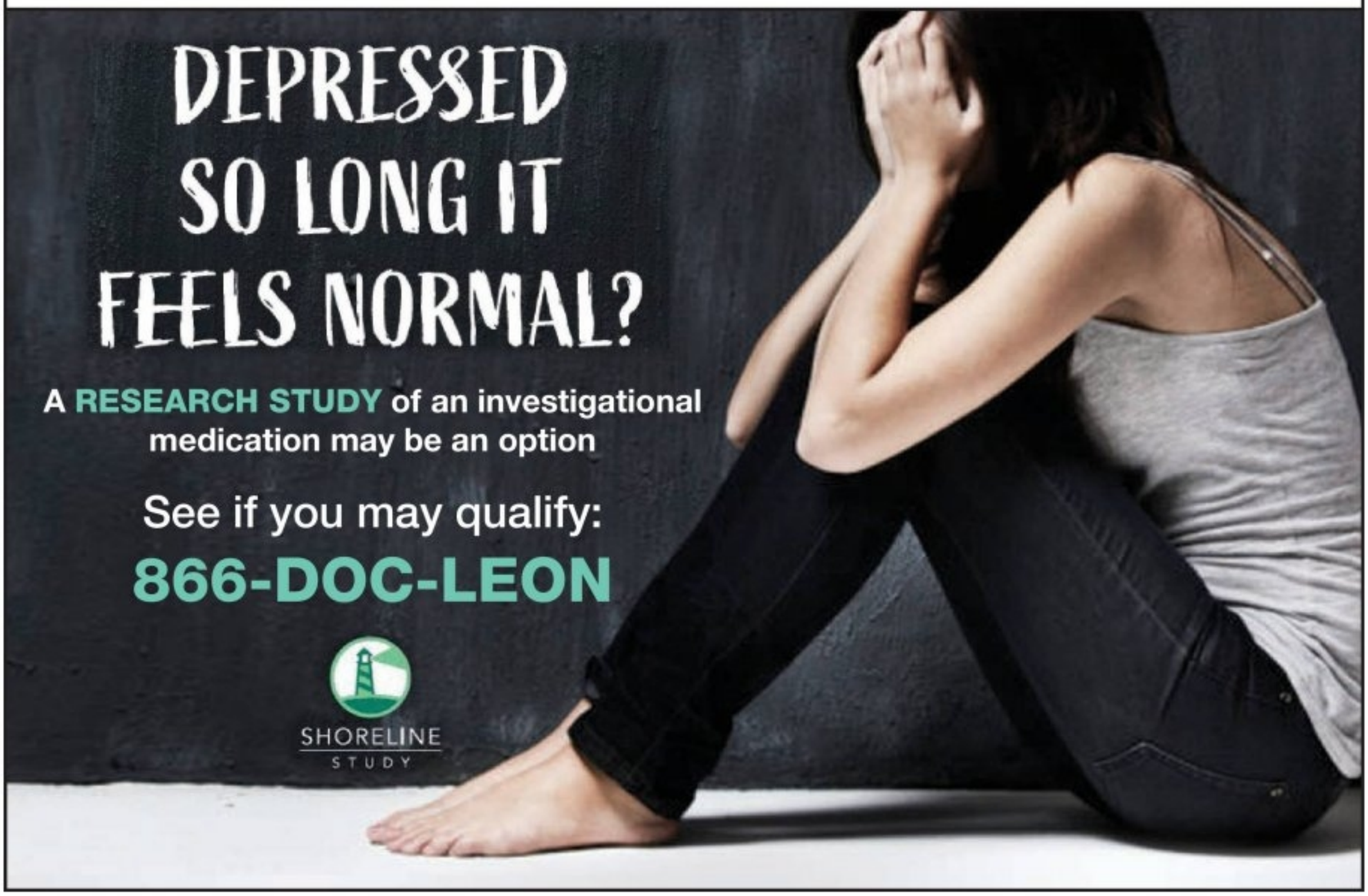
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